

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4807
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
SUB SURAT PASSPORT OFFICE
MANSINH PATEL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the passport office at Surat has not become fully operational;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the efforts being made to make it fully operational ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

- a) There is no Passport Office at Surat. There is a Passport Application Collection Centre at Surat, which is fully operational.
- b) The opening of new Passport Offices is governed by certain criteria set up by the Standing Committee of Parliament on External Affairs. The criteria, inter-alia are that the number of passport applications received from a region should not be less than 50,000 annually over a period of three years and the existence of other offices in the region. The Passport Application Collection Centre, Surat does not meet these criteria.
- c) Does not arise.